

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Serial No. : 10/590,533  
Applicant : D. Glenn Purcell  
Filed : May 24, 2007  
Title : DAMPENING AND RETRACTION MECHANISM FOR A LANCING DEVICE  
  
TC/A.U. : 3731  
Examiner : Sarah A. Simpson  
Confirmation : 9803  
Docket No. : MSE-2695

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO A NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED  
DECEMBER 22, 2008**

Mail Stop Amendment – via EFS  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Dear Commissioner:

This is in response to the Non-Final Office Action dated December 22, 2008. The shortened statutory period for response is three months from the mailing date, i.e., by March 22, 2009 and, thus, this response is being timely filed on the next business day. In response to the Office Action mailed December 22, 2008, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the record for this application.

The Applicant's **Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

The Applicant's **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.